

# SOME FACTS ABOUT SILVER

Free Coinage at 16 to 1 Means Monometallism.

The Purchasing Power the True Test of Actual and Relative Values. The Duty of the Government in Maintaining a Parity of Gold and Silver.

Secretary of the Treasury Carnegie, in his Covington speech on May 20, stated plainly and concisely the exact meaning of Bryan-Bland-Harvey free coinage. He said:

Free and unlimited coinage of full legal tender silver dollars at the ratio of 16 to 1 means that our law shall be so changed that any owner of silver bullion may send it to the mints and have it coined, at the public expense, into dollars each containing 412½ grains of standard silver, the dollars when coined to be delivered to the owner of the bullion, and all the people of the United States to be compelled by law to receive them as dollars in the payment of debts, although not intrinsically worth more than 50 cents each. The 25 8-10 grains of standard gold contained in a gold dollar is worth 100 cents, or the equivalent of 100 cents, all over the world, in silver standard countries as well as in gold standard countries, and it is worth just as much before it is coined as afterward, but the 412½ grains of standard silver contained in a silver dollar are not worth anywhere in the world more than about 50 cents. Or, to put the statement in a different form, 16 pounds of silver cannot be exchanged for 1 pound of gold anywhere in the world, but it requires about 32 pounds of silver to procure 1 pound of gold everywhere. But some one may say that this is not a fair statement, because it measures the value of silver by gold. The answer to this objection is that the statement does not attempt to measure the value of either of the metals, but simply to compare them, one with the other, and that for the purpose of making the comparison the value of gold is determined by its purchasing power in the markets of the world, and the value of silver is determined in the same way. Sixteen pounds of silver bullion will purchase only about one-half the quantity of commodities anywhere that one pound of gold bullion will purchase, and this purchasing power is the true test of their actual and relative values.

In the United States 16 pounds of silver, coined into dollars, will now purchase as much as a pound of gold coins, but this would not be the case under a system of free and unlimited coinage on individual account. The coinage of silver dollars here has been limited by law for the purpose of preventing an excessive issue, and they have been coined by the government on its own account and paid out for public purposes as dollars of full value, and consequently the government is bound by every consideration of good faith, to say nothing of the positive declarations contained in the statutes, to keep them as good as gold, or, in other words, to maintain the parity of the two metals, and this it has done and will continue to do as long as the present system exists. But if the present system is to be abolished and a new one established, so that private individuals and corporations can have their own bullion coined at the public expense and have the coins delivered to them for their private use, the government would be under no obligation whatever, legal or equitable, to keep them as good as gold, and, in fact, it would be impossible for it to do so, because the coinage would be unlimited, and the volume of silver in circulation would become so great in proportion to the gold the government could procure that the attempt would necessarily fail. The most extreme advocates of free coinage have not yet ventured to suggest that the government would be under any obligation to guarantee or maintain the value of silver dollars coined without charge for private parties, and without such guarantee it is clear the dollar would be worth no more than the commercial value of the bullion contained in it, just as the Mexican dollar is now. Admit that if the United States could coin without charge to the owners all the silver in the world available for coinage purposes, 412½ grains of standard silver, in bullion, would be worth as much in this country as a silver dollar, but the real question is, What would the silver dollar itself be worth? That it will not be equal to our present unit and standard of value is not only admitted, but openly urged as one of the chief arguments in favor of its free coinage.

Everywhere the people are being told that under free coinage it will require twice as many dollars to procure any given quantity of commodities as are required now, and this means, of course, that the money will be only one-half as valuable as it is now. When the public judgment is finally passed upon this subject, I think it will be found that the people of the United States are determined not to have a depreciated dollar, whether it be gold, silver or paper. They are undoubtedly entitled to have for use in their business just as good money as any other people in the world have, and no political party that attempts to deprive them of it will ever enjoy their confidence or receive their suffrages.

That Bicycle Face. The weary look on the faces of bicyclers has been accounted for at last. They are pneumatically tired.—Boston Herald.

## MISS JACKIE A HEROINE.

She Saved Herself and Two Little Sisters From the Jaws of an Alligator.

By her bravery Miss Jackie Williams saved herself and two little sisters from being mangled by an alligator at Titusville, Fla., the other day. The girls left home to visit a neighbor, Miss Jackie taking along a Winchester rifle, in the use of which she is an expert. They remained at the neighbor's till late and then started home.

Nearing their residence, the girls discovered a huge alligator in the road. Miss Jackie immediately fired at the saurian, but the bullet did no damage. The shot enraged the 'gator, and it rushed at the girls with its great jaws open. The little girls ran behind Miss Jackie screaming. The older girl retreated, with her face to the saurian, firing as she backed. The bullets, however, reached no vital spot, and the 'gator still pursued.

Finally the girl tripped and fell backward, and the alligator was on her. Luckily she retained hold of the rifle, and as the saurian came she thrust the gun into its gaping mouth and fired. The bullet sped into the monster's vitals, and it was soon dead. As Miss Jackie pulled the trigger after thrusting the muzzle into the 'gator's mouth she fainted, and when men, whom her sisters' screams had attracted, came, the girl was found unconscious, with the dead saurian at her feet.

The 'gator's jaws had to be pried open to release the gun, and its teeth had dented the steel. Miss Jackie is the heroine of the hour.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

## HIS ANNUAL HYDROPHOBIA.

Feonlar Case of a Man Who Was Bitten by a Dog Years Ago.

One of the most remarkable cases on record of periodical attacks of hydrophobia was developed at Pittsburg recently. John Alles, while on his way home the other night with a party of friends, suddenly became frantic. He began to bark like a dog, frothed at the mouth and tried to batter out his brains on the curbstone.

When 10 years old, Alles was bitten by a dog. The dog was shot, but the wound was not cauterized, being cured on a homemade plan. Ever since Alles has been subject to an annual attack of hydrophobia in the early days of July. Three friends were with Alles. They held him down for a moment, but he threw them off with ease. Passersby assisted, and Alles was finally overpowered through the united efforts of eight men. A patrol wagon removed him to the Mercy hospital.

Doctors have applied all known remedies for hydrophobia, but the attacks have occurred every year, each time lasting four days. Mr. Alles is now 28 years old. The only explanation the doctors can offer is that the boy's mind was so strongly impressed when he was bitten that the sight of a dog on that date throws him into spasms. Just before he has had the attacks Alles invariably has seen a dog. One crossed the street in front of him but five minutes before the attack.—Philadelphia Press.

## How to Measure the Rainfall.

The simplest form of rain gauge consists of a funnel with a definite area, say 12 inches, which fits in the mouth of a bottle. The rain that falls into the funnel runs down into the bottle of course, and the quantity is measured by means of a graduated glass.

Suppose, for example, that in 24 hours the quantity collected measures 2.3 fluid ounces. This is equal to 4 cubic inches, and if the area of the funnel be 12 inches it follows that there has been a fall of one-third of an inch.



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